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# WORK PROGRAMME, INCLUDING UNCTAD'S TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, ADVISORY AND TRAINING PROGRAMMES ON COMPETITION LAW AND POLICY

## Review of technical assistance, advisory and training programmes on competition law and policy

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

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## I. INTRODUCTION

1. In line with the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices adopted by the General Assembly in 1980, 1/ which, in section F, paragraphs 6 and 7, calls for technical assistance, advisory and training programmes on restrictive business practices, particularly for developing countries, the Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices, in its resolution 2/ (November 1995), requested the UNCTAD secretariat, taking into account increased needs for technical cooperation and technical assistance in developing countries, countries in transition and other countries, to carry out a review of technical cooperation activities undertaken by UNCTAD and other international organizations, as well as States bilaterally, with a view to strengthening its ability to provide technical assistance for capacity building in the area of competition law and policy. The Third Review Conference also urged intergovernmental organizations and financing programmes and agencies to provide resources for technical cooperation activities in this area, and it appealed to States, in particular developed countries, to increase voluntary financial contributions and to provide necessary expertise for the implementation of such activities.

2. Subsequently, in its agreed recommendations, the Expert Meeting on Competition Law and Policy (November 1996) recommended to the Commission on Investment, Technology and Related Financial Issues, which endorsed the recommendation, that the UNCTAD secretariat be requested:

> "(a) To pursue, within the available resources, its technical cooperation activities in the light of the resolutions adopted by the Third Review Conference and UNCTAD IX in 'A Partnership for Growth and Development' as well as the deliberations and consultations held during this Meeting;
>
> (b) To finalize the review of technical assistance in time for the next Meeting, taking into account the comments and additional information to be received from Governments and international organizations by 31 January 1997." 3/

3. Accordingly, this note contains a progress report on technical cooperation activities of the UNCTAD secretariat in the period since the Expert Meeting on Competition Law and Policy held in November 1996, as well as extracts of replies of member States and international organizations to the request for information in this area of the Secretary-General of UNCTAD (TD 420/8(5)Q) of 8 March 1996 and reminder of 17 March 1997. The Secretary-General is grateful for the replies to his note.

## II. PROGRESS REPORT ON UNCTAD TECHNICAL COOPERATION

4. It should be noted that UNCTAD provides assistance in accordance with requests received, needs of countries concerned and resources available. The main types of the secretariat's technical cooperation activities can be described as follows:

(a) Provision of information about restrictive business practices (RBPs), their existence and possible adverse effects on the economy. This may involve a study on restrictive business practices in a specific country;

(b) Introductory seminars directed at a wide audience including government officials and academics, as well as business and consumer-oriented circles;

(c) Assistance to States which are in the process of drafting competition legislation in the form of provision of information on such legislation in other countries or advice as to drafting their competition legislation;

(d) Advisory services for the setting-up of a competition authority; this usually includes training of officials responsible for the actual control of RBPs and may involve training workshops and/or on-the-job training with competition authorities in countries having experience in the field of competition;

(e) Organization of seminars for States which have already adopted competition legislation, have experience in the control of RBPs and wish to consult each other on specific cases and exchange information;

(f) Assistance to States which wish to revise their competition legislation and seek expert advice from competition authorities in other States, so as to amend their laws in the most effective manner possible;

(h) Assistance in the area of creating a "competitive culture" and preparing developing countries, including the LDCs, as well as economies in transition, for future multilateral negotiations in this area.

5. Since its inception in 1986, UNCTAD's technical assistance, advisory and training programmes on restrictive business practices and competition policy have expanded considerably. Annex I contains a list of all major activities undertaken in this context since 1994. As for the period since the Expert Meeting in November 1996, the UNCTAD secretariat's main technical cooperation activities are described below.

Zambia national project

6. UNCTAD has been providing assistance for capacity-building to the Ministry of Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia under project ZAM/92/026. Following the adoption of the Zambian Fair Trade and Competition Act and the organization of a national Competition Seminar in December 1995, which recommended the creation of a Competition Authority, two advisory missions were undertaken by UNCTAD with a view to assisting in the establishment of the national Competition Commission. Specific arrangements for the training of officials of the Commission, as well as for a mission by a competition expert from Pakistan to assist in its actual establishment, were undertaken and subsequently reviewed by a tripartite Zambia/UNDP/UNCTAD meeting held in January 1997. In July 1997, the Executive Director and the Chairman of the Commission participated in a study tour to visit the German, Norwegian and Swedish competition authorities.

Competition law and policy formulation in Malawi

7. The process of developing competition policy and law in Malawi was initiated with the First National Symposium on Competition Policy and Legislation (June 1996). The Second National Symposium (2-3 December 1996) was attended by participants from the Government, the public and private sector, the donor community, academic circles, consumer associations, other relevant bodies and competition experts. The representative of UNCTAD made substantive presentations on competition legislation and participated in the debates.

8. The objectives of the symposium were basically twofold: educational, and assistance in the creation of a policy framework to develop competition legislation appropriate to the economic conditions prevailing in the country. It was agreed to create a Task Force responsible for the preparation of draft legislation. Following the symposium, the Task Force decided to start the process of drafting a Competition Bill with assistance from competition consultants and in close cooperation with UNCTAD. In response to a government request, UNCTAD has prepared a detailed budget of activities in this field to be undertaken in 1997, identified five experts in countries that already have competition legislation and competition authorities, and submitted their candidacies to the Task Force for consideration.

Mauritius national project

9. Upon request of the Government of Mauritius, the UNCTAD secretariat, under project MAR/93/005 and in cooperation with the Ministry of Economic Planning and Development, engaged a high-level expert from Australia who undertook a study related to market concentration and restrictive business practices in Mauritius (June 1995). The Government requested UNCTAD to follow up by providing assistance during the elaboration and adoption of legislation and to setting-up of the institutional framework for competition and consumer protection.

10. In line with envisaged activities, an extended version of a project was prepared by UNCTAD, and a British expert was engaged to advise, in cooperation with UNCTAD, the Government on the above-mentioned tasks and to provide recommendations on the main lines of appropriate action. During a mission to Mauritius undertaken by an UNCTAD staff member in 1997, all parties concerned were further consulted on the substantive and institutional aspects of competition and consumer protection policies and laws which would be appropriate for a small island developing country. A competition and consumer protection seminar was also organized for a wide audience of government officials, businessmen, representatives of consumer organizations, academics, economists and lawyers. In the course of this meeting, a firm political commitment was made by the Government to adopt a competition law and to strengthen and better implement consumer protection legislation. Following the seminar, another British competition expert was selected and engaged by UNCTAD to prepare the legislation.

Seminar in Sri Lanka organized by the German Foundation for International Economic Development (DSE), the Federal Cartel Office of Germany and UNCTAD

11. The Seminar on the Enforcement of National Laws on Competition and Restrictive Business Practices (Colombo, 28 April-2 May 1997), organized by the German Government (DSE and the Federal Cartel Office) in cooperation with UNCTAD, provided an interesting exchange of experiences between experts from national competition authorities of Germany and Sri Lanka. The Seminar was extremely timely in the light of the forthcoming establishment in Sri Lanka of a new, more integrated competition authority to deal with both competition and consumer protection issues. Presentations were made on practical difficulties encountered in developing countries in the adoption and enforcement of competition legislation and on competition policy at the national and international levels, including existing cooperation agreements.

Upcoming Seminars

12. At the time of writing, three seminars organized by UNCTAD, in cooperation with national authorities are envisaged in Georgia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Nepal and Papua New Guinea. A seminar on competition policy organized in cooperation with the DSE is also scheduled to take place in Malaysia. In addition, resources permitting, and in line with the request in "A Partnership for Growth and Development" (para. 91 (iii)) the UNCTAD secretariat is planning to organize a regional seminar for Africa during the last quarter of 1997. The Government of Egypt has offered to host this seminar in Cairo.

Participation in seminars and conferences

13. During the period under review, staff members of UNCTAD took part in a number of seminars, workshops and conferences related to issues of competition policy and restrictive business practices. In particular, resource persons from UNCTAD made substantive presentations and participated in discussions in the following meetings:

- The "ESCAP/UNCTAD/UNDP Meeting of Senior Officials to Assist in Preparation of the First WTO Ministerial Conference" (Jakarta, 4-6 September 1996), which brought together high-level policy officials from ESCAP member countries and areas and representatives from intergovernmental organizations, specialized agencies and United Nations agencies. Presentations were made on competition policy and its interface with trade and foreign direct investment, as well as on the outlook for competition policy beyond the WTO Singapore meeting;

- A "Second Meeting on Competition Policy in Latin America and the Caribbean" (Caracas, 27-29 November 1996), organized by SELA with a view to coordinating the position of the Latin American and Caribbean Group concerning the treatment of competition issues at the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference;

- "IDLI Workshop on Development Law" (Rome, 4-5 November 1996), conducted with lawyers from developing and transition countries

involved in economic policy-making. Presentations were made on UNCTAD's role and activities and on various aspects of competition law and policy in the context of the evolution of international development law, international economic law and North-South relations;

- The "ACP Preparatory Seminar to the WTO Singapore Ministerial Conference" (Brussels, 5-6 November 1996) organized for the ACP group of States;

- The "Second International Conference on Competition Policies in Transition Economies" (Moscow, 17-20 February 1997), held to exchange experiences and discuss various problems involved in developing competition policy and legislation in countries in transition;

- A "Seminar on Competition Legislation" (Douala, 10-13 March 1997), organized by the World Bank for government officials and business representatives in the context of improving the competitiveness of the economy of Cameroon. Presentations were made on competition policy as part of general economic policy, specific substantive aspects of competition legislation and experiences of African countries in developing competition law and policy;

- A Conference on "Competition Policy in a Global Economy" (New Delhi, 17-18 March 1997), organized by the World Bank in cooperation with the Indian Government, to discuss the interface between competition policy and trade, investment and economic development, as well as prospects for international cooperation on competition law and policy in the wake of decisions of the WTO Singapore meeting;

- The "APEC Competition Law and Policy Seminar" (Bangkok, 18-21 March 1997) conducted by senior officials for competition authorities in member economies of APEC, as well as representatives from OECD and UNCTAD;

- The "Regional Symposium on International Investment Arrangements: The Development Dimension" (19-20 June 1997, Fès, Morocco);

- The Fourth ALCA Working Group in Lima (Peru) (June 1997), to present UNCTAD's technical cooperation project for the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), prepared at the request of the Working Group. It was made clear at that meeting that the UNCTAD technical cooperation project on competition would be open for contributions and participation by all international organizations having experience in the field of competition and of States having experience in the implementation of competition law.

Other technical cooperation activities

14. Within the framework of the integrated country programme for the least-developed countries (LDCs), the UNCTAD secretariat has prepared

country-specific technical cooperation projects on developing competition legislation and policy in Bangladesh, Gambia, Guinea and Nepal. Draft project documents have been submitted to the Governments of these countries for consideration.

15. A draft project on "Support for the finalization of the initial application of Egypt's competition law" has been elaborated by UNCTAD with a view to providing technical support in the process of enacting competition legislation and establishing a competition authority responsible for the enforcement of competition legislation in Egypt. In the process of elaborating Egyptian competition legislation, UNCTAD also reviewed a draft law prepared by the Egyptian authorities and presented a detailed commentary to the Government of Egypt.

16. Advisory services related to the preparation of draft competition legislation have been provided to the Dominican Republic. A commentary has also been made on the draft competition and consumer protection legislation of the UDEAC member countries. With a view to assisting UDEAC countries in the formulation of common competition legislation, a technical cooperation project has been formulated by UNCTAD and submitted for the consideration of potential donors.

17. A number of policy-oriented and research studies have been prepared and will be published as a first volume of studies on competition, planned to be issued in 1997. They include, in particular, studies on "Advocacy functions of competition authorities"; "Competition aspects of the main WTO agreements"; "Competition policy in countries in transition", "FDI-related issues of competition and RBPs" and "The development dimension of competition law and policy".

Preparation of regional technical cooperation projects

18. Following the request of the Working Group on Competition Policy of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), which identified technical cooperation as its immediate priority, a detailed questionnaire on the needs of the FTAA member countries in the field of competition law and policy was drafted and a regional advisor, based in Lima (Peru), was appointed by UNCTAD to prepare and complete the project. The replies to the questionnaire helped in the identification and quantification of the requirements in the region. Based on these replies, a full-fledged draft project document was prepared and submitted for the consideration of the FTAA Working Group at its fourth session in June 1997. It was decided to consider further a revised version of the project at the fifth session of the Working Group in September, once the commentary to be received from Governments has been incorporated into the draft project.

19. In line with the resolution of the Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set (November 1995) and the decisions taken by UNCTAD IX, which, in paragraph 91 (iii) of "A Partnership for Growth and Development", called upon UNCTAD to focus "on Africa by holding a regional meeting, creating relevant inventories and databases, and establishing a technical cooperation programme", and, in paragraph 97 (ii), to provide technical cooperation by "supporting strategies in promoting national

competition and consumer protection law and policy formulation", UNCTAD has prepared five detailed subregional technical cooperation projects which have been submitted to potential donors for consideration. These projects aim at providing support mainly to African countries in the formulation of national competition law and policy and consumer protection legislation and the establishment of competition and consumer protection authorities. At the time of writing, decisions by potential donors to finance such projects were still pending.

## III. INFORMATION ON TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES OF MEMBER STATES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### (a) Information on technical assistance provided, planned or received

20. Below are extracts of the replies received to the Secretary-General's note TD/420/8(5)Q of 8 March 1996 and to the reminder to this note of 17 March 1997, which requested information on technical cooperation in the field of competition law and policy.

21. Australia in the implementation of the APEC Action Agenda, is likely to contribute towards policy dialogue in forthcoming workshops and to provide technical and policy development assistance, as requested by APEC member economies. Relevant information has been provided to assist Taiwan Province of China in the construction of a publicly accessible database on APEC competition policy and law. The provision of information was also planned for the publication in 1997 of a new edition of the annual APEC Deregulation Report of the Committee on Trade and Investment (CTI).

22. The Assistant Secretary of the Competition Policy Branch of the Australian Treasury presented a seminar on competition policy in Jakarta on 28-29 February 1996 at the invitation of the Indonesian Government. He also planned to present a paper on "Occupational regulation in Australia and the national competition policy framework" at the Competition Policy and Deregulation Workshop of APEC, held at Quebec City on 18-19 May 1997. During the visit of the Commissioner of the Taiwan Fair Trade Commission to the Australian Treasury in May 1996, Treasury officials explained Australia's competition policy, including Australia's experience with deregulation in the telecommunications, gas, electricity and financial sectors.

23. In Benin, the Ministry for Commerce has received assistance from an expert from the Federal Cartel Office (Germany) in connection with the preparation of its draft competition law. The amended draft takes into account recent trends in this field in both developed and developing countries.

The Government will need technical cooperation programmes covering:

- Scholarships to train officials responsible for the control of competition in specialized institutions, as well as internships with competition authorities experienced in this field;

- Seminars aimed at sensitizing businessmen and consumers on all aspects of competition, as well as on the provisions of the competition law itself. The media could be invited to disseminate relevant information to the public at large;

- The establishment of pertinent databases and a documentation centre at the Competition and Price Directorate, which is regarded as essential.

24. The Government of Costa Rica participated in the First Encounter of Competition Authorities in Cartagena, Colombia (December 1995), organized by the Spanish International Cooperation Agency (AECI). The Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) financed two internships, at the Federal Competition Commission (Mexico) and the Competition Authority in Chile respectively. The German Foundation for International Economic Development (DSE) organized a Seminar on Modern Competition Policy in June 1996 in Costa Rica. The Costa Rican authorities participated in the Second Meeting of Competition Authorities of Latin America in Caracas (Venezuela), organized with the technical and financial support of Spain and the Latin American Economic System (SELA). A two-week internship was made available by the United States Federal Trade Commission, and a Training Course on Competition Law and Economy was organized in Santa Cruz, Bolivia, under the auspices of the Spanish Government. As for requests for technical assistance, the Costa Rican Government has presented a project to the Spanish Government for two internships in 1997 at the Competition Tribunal in Spain, as well as a request to the Mexican Government for five internships at the Federal Competition Commission of Mexico. A Competition Seminar co-financed with the United States Federal Trade Commission is planned to take place as soon as Costa Rica finds sources of funding. The European Community is being approached to support a technical cooperation programme on a regional basis. This is related to efforts by the Permanent Secretariat of the General Treaty on Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) to prepare competition rules at the regional level.

25. In Cyprus, the Competition and Consumer Protection Service, in cooperation with a foreign expert, has completed the preparation of a draft law regarding the control of concentrations between enterprises which is based on European Council Regulation No. 4064/89 of 21 December 1989.

26. In 1994, the Estonian Competition Board received assistance from the European Union's PHARE programme involving seminars on competition law, detailed advice of PHARE experts on cases, and assistance on the reform of Estonian competition law. A short PHARE bridges project was implemented in 1996 in order to finalize the Draft Act on Competition that was presented to Parliament in April 1997. In the framework of the PHARE programme, experts were recruited from the United Kingdom, Denmark, Greece and Portugal. Study visits to the Swedish Competition Authority and to the United Kingdom and the participation of the Board's officials in several conferences in the field of competition law and policy were financed. Assistance was received from the Finnish Office of Free Competition in the form of seminars organized for public servants of the Estonian Competition Board and for Estonian lawyers, who were also advised on specific cases.

27. Two officials of the Board participated in the Canadian Government's Baltic Economic Management Programme, and within the framework of this programme they had a two-week study visit to the Canadian Bureau of Competition Policy. It was agreed with the Swedish Competition Authority to organize a number of seminars for Estonian judges in the second half of 1997. Competition Authorities of three Baltic States (Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania) agreed by memorandum of understanding to provide assistance to each other in their activities related to supervision of competition according to their national legislation.

28. Since November 1995, the Office of Free Competition of Finland has provided primarily bilateral technical cooperation to Estonia and the Russian Federation, mainly St. Petersburg and Petrozavodsk. Bilateral assistance has been funded from the Finnish State budget. Technical cooperation provided to Estonia has consisted, in particular, of seminars organized for competition authorities and lawyers on competition policy issues, and assistance in the implementation of competition law. The Office of Free Competition has also provided assistance on legislative, institutional and administrative issues and received two Estonian trainees for periods of two and three weeks, one on the basis of a bilateral agreement and the other for a traineeship organized by the European Commission. Bilateral technical cooperation with Estonia is based on a so-called Umbrella Agreement on Economic Cooperation and Support concluded by the Finnish and Estonian Governments and on the Agreement between the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Finland and the Ministry of Economic Affairs of Estonia on Economic Cooperation and Assistance. An Annual Programme for Finnish-Estonian Cooperation on economic and technical assistance between the two countries has been in existence since 1996. Cooperation with the Russian Federation has consisted of study trips conducted by Finnish officials to Moscow, St. Petersburg and Petrozavodsk. Similarly, regional administration officials have visited the Office of Free Competition and regional provincial governments. Finnish officials have also given assistance in the handling of individual cases in a seminar arranged in Petrozavodsk. The technical cooperation is based on a two-year agreement concluded in 1995 by the Office of Free Competition with the State Committee of the Russian Federation for Antimonopoly Policy and Promotion of New Economic Structures (SCAP). The agreement will be renewed in the near future. In 1995-1997 and earlier, the Office of Free Competition provided technical cooperation in the handling of some individual cases with Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Slovenian, Czech and Bulgarian competition authorities. In addition to bilateral cooperation, the Office has participated in technical assistance coordinated by the European Commission. Technical cooperation provided within bilateral and multilateral framework will continue in the future.

29. The Competition Authority of Italy has participated in training and technical assistance seminars in favour of the Central and Eastern European countries organized by the OECD in Vienna (in 1993 and 1994), St. Petersburg (in 1995 and 1996), Budapest (1994), Moscow (1995), Istanbul (1996) and Buenos Aires (1996). At the bilateral level, the Italian Competition Authority participated in two technical assistance programmes set up by the European Commission. In 1995 and 1996, the Authority received officials from countries in transition. The training courses mainly involved examining the Italian Competition Law, links with the European Commission, methods of juridical and economic analysis used by the Authority in case of abuses, of

cartels and of concentrations, and the links between liberalization, privatization and competition. In 1996, the Competition Authority met with the Presidents of the Czech Republic and Ukraine. Participants from these countries have shown keen interest in substantive aspects of competition policy, as well as the effective application of the law to concrete cases. Privatization and public utilities were also of special interest to them. The Italian Competition Authority believes in this respect that it would be necessary to study in more detail the procedural aspects and the institutional framework which could ensure efficient implementation of competition rules.

30. In Lithuania, technical assistance for the State Competition and Consumer Protection Office was provided in 1995 by the Federal Trade Commission and the Department of Justice of the United States. Short- and long-term missions were organized at the Office to assist in the revision of the competition law and the evaluation of mergers and vertical restraints, abuse of dominance, etc. Five members of the State Competition and Consumer Protection Office participated in a training programme in the United States. In addition, a technical assistance project was prepared under the European Union's PHARE programme in 1995. The project consists of two components: the first concerns assistance in drafting an amendment to the existing competition law; this includes three man-months of legal consultancy and support for various information activities in connection with the new law. The second component involves the provision of on-the-job training for five Lithuanian officials at the Commission's Directorate-General IV (DG-IV) and relevant administrations in European Union member States.

31. In Mauritius, UNCTAD organized a study on market concentration and restrictive business practices (1995). As a follow-up to this study, UNCTAD and UNDP have agreed to provide financial and technical support for the recruitment of a consultant to advise on and assist in the preparation of appropriate competition and consumer protection legislation with a view to the setting-up of a Monopolies and Mergers Commission and the appointment of a Director of Fair Trading and a Consumer Ombudsman. UNCTAD has already recruited two consultants to carry out the assignment. One of these consultants and a staff member of the UNCTAD secretariat were in Mauritius in 1997, and a seminar was held with the parties concerned with competition policy and consumer protection to enable the consultant to gather as much information as possible. The consultant has submitted a preliminary report which is being studied.

32. In Namibia, the Ministry of Trade and Industry was carrying out a comprehensive review of the existing legislation in the field of Commercial and Company Law, Law of Property, Law of Contract, Intellectual and Industrial Property Law and the impact of the Labour Act and the judicial system on competition in Namibia. The principal objective of this review was to formulate a national competition policy framework which would be consistent with the country's international obligations and which would identify solutions to the constraints arising from unfair trade practices.

33. Technical cooperation provided or planned by Peru consists of: (a) training in the National Institute for the Defense of Competition and Protection of Intellectual Property (INDECOPI) for officials of developing

countries preparing or applying competition legislation; (b) sending officials from the Commission of Free Competition of INDECOPI to advise developing countries on the implementation of competition legislation.

34. The Antimonopoly Office of the Slovak Republic is taking advantage of the possibilities offered by the PHARE programme, complemented by resources from the Know-How-Fund, USAID and the German Foundation for International Cooperation. It participates in international cooperation provided through the EU, CEFTA, OECD, CIS and UNCTAD and through international agreements on free trade which Slovakia is bound by. It maintains contacts with countries of Europe and the United States, its closest cooperation being with countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the EU. Priorities are set by the Office in respect of long-term goals (e.g. a decree with detailed provisions in respect of exemptions from prohibition of agreements restricting competition) and of current needs (e.g. in the field of competition in banking, detection of international cartels, linkage between competition policy and procurement, dumping etc.). Priority attention is expected to be given to the following issues:

- Harmonization of the competition legislation of the Slovak Republic with competition laws of the EU and secondary legislation;

- Application of Article 64 of the Euroagreement - Implementing rules;

- Monitoring of amendments in primary and secondary legislation of the EU;

- Ensuring the compatibility of Slovakia with the EU in the field of information systems and databases;

- Continuation of contacts with the EU, OECD, UNCTAD, CEFTA and the United States.

35. For 1997, the Antimonopoly Office of the Slovak Republic has prepared a project in the framework of the Country Operational Programme 1997, which is to provide for continuing activities contributing to the reform of the national system of competition protection in the light of the requirements of the EU.

36. In Spain, the Department of Economic Policy and Competition (Direccion General de Politica Economica y Defensa de la Competencia) represents Spain in international forums and has been involved in bilateral activities with many countries, in particular with Mediterranean countries, Central and Eastern Europe, the Far East, etc. In Latin America, the First Meeting of Spanish and Latin American competition authorities in Cartagena de Indias (November 1955) was the starting point for a series of activities and annual meetings which include: bilateral cooperation programmes; training courses, seminars and scholarships; exchange of information; advisory missions; and cooperation in the application of competition legislation. The Second Meeting took place in Caracas (Venezuela) in November 1996. In 1997, within the framework of cooperation of the Spanish International Cooperation Agency

(Agencia Espanola de Cooperation Internacional) (AECI) with SELA, the Spanish Agency financed the organization of an intensive training course (19-28 May 1997, Santa Cruz) for participants from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Venezuela. It also financed two weeks' training organized in Spain for Latin American officials.

37. In Sri Lanka, under a Japanese training programme, one officer from the Fair Trading Commission was nominated for training on antimonopoly law. The programme was conducted in March 1996 and the total cost was met by the Japanese Government. The training was found to be extremely useful at a time when Sri Lanka is considering redrafting its Competition Law to include both RBPs and consumer protection. A conference on competition policy was held in New Delhi, India, on 17-19 March 1997, and two high-level officials from the Fair Trading Commission participated. It was organized by the Private Sector Development Department and the Economic Development Institution of the World Bank, in conjunction with India's National Council for Applied Economic Research. The participants were drawn from South Asia and OECD member countries. The conference resulted in very close understanding among countries in the region, as well as with the developed countries, and the exchange of views was found both useful and fruitful. In addition, the German Foundation for International Development (DSE) arranged a seminar in Colombo from 28 April to 2 May 1997. Experts from Germany and UNCTAD conducted this seminar on the "Enforcement of national laws on competition and RBPs in developing countries". Thirty-five participants drawn from Sri Lanka's Fair Trading Commission and other relevant agencies took part in this training.

38. From 1994 to July 1996, the Competition Authority of Sweden received study visits from authorities of a number of countries including Hungary, Slovakia, the Baltic States, Poland, Slovenia, the Russian Federation and China. The purpose of these visits was to give technical assistance on legislation, institutional frameworks and enforcement issues. The duration of the visits varied from half a day up to two weeks.

39. The Government of Zimbabwe has recently approved the establishment of an Industry and Trade Competition Commission. The Ministry of Industry and Commerce is responsible for the establishment of the Commission and has asked USAID and the Commonwealth secretariat for competent experts to provide technical assistance in the following areas: (a) advising the Industry and Trade Competition Commission on the discharge of its mandate; (b) looking into the status of the monopolies legislation (i.e. the Competition Act) in Zimbabwe, advising on its effective implementation and suggesting any changes if necessary; (c) assisting with the establishment of the Industry and Trade Commission and advising on appropriate institutional arrangements to ensure a measure of separation between the investigative and prosecuting aspects of the Commission's work, as distinct from the adjudicative aspects; (d) working with local counterparts with a view to providing on-the-job training for them; (e) advising on proactive initiatives to educate the public about the Act; (f) advising on the nature and recruitment of personnel of the Commission.

40. The European Commission (Directorate-General IV (DG-IV)) has a twofold strategy for the provision of technical assistance in the area of competition to the associated countries of Central and Eastern Europe (CEECs): firstly, a

horizontal approach which aims at making European competition policy more widely known; second, a country-by-country approach targeted at the individual needs of each of the associated countries. In cooperation with DG-1A, DG-IV has drafted the terms of reference of technical assistance programmes under each of these two pillars. The European Commission (DG-IV) considers that the development of a market and competition "culture" among the CEECs' economic agents and the public is a prerequisite for efficiently functioning markets and for a sufficient understanding of the commercial and economic conditions and consequences of integration into the EU. The need to have economic agents (officials, judges, lawyers, academics, etc.) with a good knowledge of the mechanisms of the market, and in particular the need for competition rules to protect the regular functioning of the market, is one of the priorities of DG-IV's technical assistance strategy. The other priorities, such as approximation of legislation, were carried out and are still carried out within national programmes. Within the framework of the horizontal programme, DG-IV, in cooperation with DG-1A and member States, plans to continue with the following in 1997:

- Collective traineeships;

- Central European conference on competition policy;

- Specific training (training for academics, training for judges);

- Informatics link.

41. The collective traineeship project aims at offering an in-depth introduction to the European Union's antitrust and State aid policy. The target group is young officials from the various competition and State aid authorities in the CEECs. Each authority may send up to four officials. So far, the programme has been organized in two parts. The first part of the collective traineeship takes place in Brussels for a period of two weeks. During this time the candidates attend lectures given by officials of DG-IV and participate actively in working groups. The second part of the collective traineeship takes place in a member State for a period of one or two weeks. The purpose of this extended training is to acquaint the trainees with the principles, objectives, and structures of competition law and policy within the member State and its interrelationship with EU competition policy. As regards its part in Brussels in 1995, the first collective traineeship focused only on antitrust policy. The lectures covered economic issues and competition rules. Documentation was provided on each selected topic. Subsequently, the candidates drafted a short report and an analysis paper on topics selected during the stay in Brussels. In 1996 the second collective traineeship also included lectures and working groups on State aid policy. The participants were divided up in two groups. The first focused solely on State aid, the second on antitrust issues. During the course, each participant received competition books and documentation. DG-IV believes that collective training is an effective way to provide the CEECs with the appropriate information on EU rules and procedures. It seems more useful and efficient than purely bilateral relations and training.

42. In 1995-1996, in cooperation with the associated countries, DG-IV organized two Central European conferences on competition policy. The first

conference was organized in cooperation with the Office of Economic Competition of Hungary in Visegrad on 19-21 June 1995. The second one was organized in cooperation with the Czech Ministry for Economic Competition in Brno on 9-10 May 1996. DG-IV also organized the Baltic Booster Conference in cooperation with the three Baltic States in April 1996 in order to boost competition policy development in the Baltic States so that it catches up with practice in other Central European countries. The Central European conferences aim at high-level exchanges of views on competition policy, thereby contributing to the enhancement of cooperation both between the European Commission and CEECs' competition authorities and among the CEECs' competition authorities themselves. Each conference is an occasion for authorities from all CEECs and the Commission to analyse antitrust and State aid policies together in a systematic manner. It is a unique event in bringing together so many competition authorities (EU and all associated countries) on both antitrust and State aid. At the end of each of the conferences that have taken place, the heads of the antitrust authorities adopted a Joint Action Programme for Competition as a basis for future common efforts towards accelerating the implementation of the Europe Agreements.

43. Under specific training activities, special attention was given to training for academics. One of the objectives of the PHARE Programme on Competition Protection is to increase the awareness of competition policy within a wider public of economic operators. The Commission believes that academics in CEECs could be catalysts in improving this awareness, and it therefore wishes to encourage the academic world in CEECs to pay attention to competition policy. The objective of the programme consists in developing an adequate training programme for academics working at economy universities in CEECs and promoting contacts and the exchange of information with training institutions and/or universities from within the EU. The training focuses on the transfer of (basic) information in the area of competition (depending on the level of the academics), stimulating academic interest within the CEECs for this area of policy, and establishing informal contacts between selected academics. The training programme was organized in October 1996 by the European Public Law Center, which is based in Athens. The participants (all academics, though some also hold positions as lawyers or as a judge) came from five CEECs (Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Bulgaria and Romania) and six universities. The seminar lasted two weeks. Each day there were lectures in the morning and a tutorial in the afternoon. During the tutorial, the lecturers answered questions, reviewed certain topics and entered into discussion. As a follow-up, the participants have been asked to continue working on the topic and to present a publication in the near future.

44. In 1997, the training programme should focus on academics from economic universities in CEECs. The training is to be organized by the University of Dublin in September 1997. In 1997, the Commission also plans to organize training for judges and intends to finance training for officials of the CEECs on State aid, as this subject will become increasingly important in the future. The idea is to invite officials who are working in aid-granting authorities, i.e. not officials of monitoring authorities, who receive technical assistance under other programmes.

45. The objective of the Radepeco programme is to improve communications between Commission services (DG-IV) and competition authorities in CEECs by

using advanced information and communication technologies. The project includes the delivery and installation of the required hardware and software, connection to a communication network, and reporting, accounting and billing services. It also includes training of users, user support and maintenance of the system. A company has been selected by an evaluation committee, and the conclusion of a contract with this company is expected towards the end of 1997. DG-IV considers that the dissemination of information is of major importance at this stage of development. All competition authorities of CEECs receive the Competition Policy Newsletter. Moreover, in 1997, with a view to improving officials' knowledge, DG-IV, in cooperation with DG-1A, has decided to provide a number of law reviews for one year free of charge to all competition authorities in CEECs. In the framework of PHARE programmes, most of the associated countries have received many books on competition policy which have been recommended by the PHARE consultants. For the sake of consistency, DG-IV has compiled a list of relevant books on antitrust and State aid. The lists will be sent out to competition authorities and State aid monitoring authorities in CEECs. Moreover, the Commission (DG-1A and DG-IV) has sponsored a special issue from the EMP Magazine.

46. The major technical assistance projects conducted by the OECD in the area of competition policy since 1995 are set forth below. Some of these projects were carried out jointly with the World Bank, and many benefited from the assistance of national competition authorities. The list also includes projects scheduled for the rest of 1997. Except where otherwise noted, the participants were employees of the national competition authority concerned.

47. The following major conferences were organized:

- 9-12 May 1995 - *Competition and Regulation in Network Infrastructure Industries* - attended by competition officials and regulators from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia assisted by the World Bank and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

- 26-28 September 1995 - (jointly sponsored and principally organized by the Russian Antimonopoly Committee) International Conference on *Competition Policy in Transition Economies* - attended by competition officials from a variety of countries (particularly those of Eastern Europe and the CIS), representatives of several international organizations, scholars, consultants and law practitioners from Moscow firms and organizations, and a large number of Russian Antimonpoly Committee staff members from all parts of the Russian Federation.

48. The following seminars were organized:

- Hungary: April 1996 - *Economic Issues Involved in Adjudicating Hungarian Competition Cases* - attended by judges of the Supreme Court and Metropolitan Court and staff of the Office of Economic Competition;

- Poland: December 1995 - *Economic Issues Involved in Adjudicating Polish Competition Cases* - attended by judges of the Antimonopoly

Court and Supreme Administrative Court and staff of the Ministry of Justice, Ombudsman Office, Antimonopoly Office; observed by two officials of the Russian Supreme Arbitration Court;

- Russian Federation: (a) Summer 1995 (in collaboration with the World Bank) - missions to Irkutsk and Novosibirsk to discuss competition policy implementation with regional Antimonopoly Committee staff; (b) 2-6 December 1995 - *Topics in Competition Policy*; (c) May 1996 - *Economic Issues Involved in Adjudicating Russian Competition Cases* - attended by judges from the Arbitration Court and officials of the Antimonopoly Committee; (d) November 1996 - *Implementation of Competition Law in the Russian Federation* - attended by judges of the Arbitration Court and officials of the Antimonopoly Committee; (e) December 1996 - *Topics in Competition Policy* - attended primarily by staff of the Antimonopoly Committee but with representation as well from: Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Tadjikistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan; (f) November 1997 - *Implementation of Competition Law in the Russian Federation*; (g) 1-5 December 1997 - *Topics in Competition Policy*;

- Slovakia: October 1996 - *Economic Issues Involved in Adjudicating Slovak Republic Competition Cases* - attended by judges of the Supreme Court and staff of the Antimonopoly Office, including its Commission;

- Ukraine: (a) October 1995 - *Effective Competition Policy Enforcement*; (b) June 1996 - *Effective Competition Policy Enforcement*; (c) 23-27 June 1997 - *Effective Competition Policy Enforcement*;

- Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia: November 1995 - *Seminar on Vertical Restraints* - attended by competition officials from the four countries;

- Seminars at the Joint Vienna Institute: *Topics in Competition Policy* - two-week seminars typically involving delegates from the competition offices of Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Slovakia, Ukraine, and, less frequently Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan; the seminars are focused on real competition cases submitted by the participating countries; except for the first year (when three shorter seminars were presented) the seminars have been held annually in Vienna since 1992;

- Seminars at the OECD's Centre for Private Sector Development (Istanbul): (a) June 1995 - *Effective Competition Law Enforcement* - attended by officials from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan; (b) May 1996 - *Merger Enforcement Issues* - attended by officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation and Ukraine; (c) October 1996 - *Effective*

*Competition Law Enforcement* - attended by officials from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan; (d) April 1997 - *Detecting, Investigating and Prosecuting Cartels* - attended by officials from Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Mongolia, Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uzbekistan; (e) October 1997 - *Deconcentration and Demonopolization*; (f) November 1997 - *Institutional Aspects of Competition Law Enforcement*;

- Baltic Rim Economic Forum: June 1997 - *Competition Policy in the Context of Regional Integration* - attended by competition officials of Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and St. Petersburg;

- Latin American seminars: (a) October 1996 (organized in conjunction with the Government of Argentina and the World Bank) Emerging Market Economy Forum *Workshop on Competition Policy and Enforcement* - attended by competition officials from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, South Africa, Uruguay and Venezuela, with panelists drawn from the Organization of American States (OAS) and Australia, Canada, the European Commission, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Poland, Slovakia, Turkey and the United States; (b) July 1997 (organized in cooperation with the World Bank, the Brazilian competition agency (CADE) and a private economics institute (IBRAC)) *Competition Policy and Economic Reform* - attended by officials from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and Venezuela, with panelists drawn from Canada, the European Union, France, Japan, Mexico and the United States.

- APEC region seminars: speakers and panelists contributed by OECD to a variety of seminars on competition policy in the APEC region, including: Taiwan Province of China 1995, New Zealand 1995 (APEC), Philippines 1996 (APEC), Republic of Korea 1996, 1997 (Korean Fair Trade Commission, Korean Development Institute), Thailand 1996 (APEC).

49. Advice on laws, commentaries and methodologies was provided as follows:

Chile: 1995 - commented on competition law amendments;

Kazakhstan: 1995 and 1996 - commented on amendments to competition law;

Lithuania: 1995 - commented on draft amendments to competition law;

Malaysia: 1995 - advised on draft competition law;

Russian Federation: 1995 - commented on: market power methodology; telecommunications restructuring plans; draft statute and Presidential Edict pertaining to the Russian Antimonopoly Committee; draft statute pertaining to the territorial administration of the Russian Antimonopoly Commitee; draft statute pertaining to the register of economic subjects

having market shares exceeding 35 per cent; 1996 - commented on draft methodologies concerning market definition and evaluating market power and merger review and on commentaries relating to cartels; also commented on some CIS Interstate Council draft agreements on cooperation in competition policy (including information sharing); 1997 - commented on draft law on wholesale trading, draft commentary to law on competition, and draft methodologies (abuse of dominance, actions and agreements of State executive bodies, evaluation of the effects of restrictive trade measures on internal competition, horizontal and vertical agreements, and merger review).

Ukraine: 1997 - advised on amendments to the competition law.

50. Other activities included working jointly with the World Bank on (a) a revised and updated *Glossary* of the legal and economic terms fundamental to competition law and policy (to be published in 1997), an earlier version of which has been translated into several languages, including Russian and Spanish; and (b) a *Competition Manual* for transition and developing countries (to be published in 1997).

51. The World Bank's Competition and Strategy Group within the Private Sector Development Department seeks, in general, to foster business-government cooperation to promote policy reforms aimed at creating a responsive business environment, strengthening linkages to the international economy, and improving access to up-to-date technology. In the context of the achievements of a first generation of policy reforms in terms of trade liberalization, price stability, lower fiscal deficits and improved balance of payments, the Group believes that a dynamic and competitive environment, underpinned by competition policy and legislation adequately tailored to a country's specific circumstances, is an essential characteristic of successful second-generation policy reforms.

52. The Group's activities are geared towards promoting best practice in the field of competition policy, legislation and institutions. Over the last three years, it has assisted in the design, implementation or strengthening of competition policy, legislation, institutions and enforcement in countries like Argentina, Brazil, Cameroon, Colombia, El Salvador, Gabon, Jordan, and Peru. Additionally, the Group has organized several conferences, seminars or workshops in Argentina (in partnership with OECD), Colombia, Chile, India, Indonesia, Nepal (in partnership with UNCTAD), Peru and Turkey. In Vienna, it held seminars and workshops for Czech, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Slovak and Ukrainian officials.

53. In partnership with OECD, the Group has prepared a Glossary of Industrial Organization Economics and Competition Law, that has been translated to several languages. It is nearing completion (jointly with the OECD) of a practical guide on the design, administration and enforcement of competition law and policy, the "World Bank/OECD Competition Policy and Operations Manual", planned to be published by the end of June 1997.

54. Another Group within the Private Sector Development Department, i.e. the Private Participation in Infrastructure Group, covers issues of private participation in infrastructure (communication, energy, transport, water and

sanitation), providing advice on market structure and competition, infrastructure regulation, privatization and concession-type schemes, and concession award and project finance.

55. The Group supports the International Forum for Utility Regulation in terms of organizing Annual Expert Meetings (Oxford in 1996, Melbourne in 1997), collaborating with the Utility Research Centre at the University of Florida to develop an International Training Course on Utility Regulation and Strategy, and printing an International Directory of Utility Regulatory Institutions. In addition, it has produced a number of valuable publications on competition and regulation and has organized or participated in workshops, seminars or conferences in a large number of countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Belgium, Chile, China, Ecuador, France, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Sweden, the United Kingdom and Uruguay.

56. Outside the Private Sector Development Department, the East Asia and Pacific Division is currently providing technical assistance for a number of legislative drafting subprojects in China, including an Antimonopoly Law; it has already conducted study tours to the United States and is planning tours to Germany and Australia. An international seminar on China's economic law reform is being organized in Beijing by the Chinese State Commission on the Reform of the Economic System under the auspices of the East Asia and Pacific Division. The Latin American and Caribbean Region Technical Department has recently prepared a technical study on competition policy and related policy areas such as consumer protection, intellectual property, regulation and bankruptcy.

(b) Requests for technical assistance

57. Below are extracts from the replies received, which are related to requests for technical assistance with identification of specific competition law and policy areas or issues which the States would wish to see receive priority attention.

58. Benin: A specific project could be launched to train competition enforcing personnel, as well as entrepreneurs and consumers, and also to create an archive of documents on competition legislation.

59. Costa Rica: International technical assistance is requested to facilitate the revision of the existing competition legislation.

60. Ethiopia: The Ministry of Trade and Industry has initiated studies on drafting competition legislation and requests technical assistance to train the necessary personnel and draft national competition legislation.

61. Estonia: There is a need to strengthen the Competition Board and train its staff and judges in the field of competition legislation. Training in the area of RBPs and merger control is also required.

62. Guinea: Assistance is requested for the formulation of competition policy, improvement of the existing law and training of personnel responsible for the enforcement of competition legislation.

63. Kenya: The Monopolies and Prices Commission requires logistical assistance to prepare regional workshops for trade officials of the countries within the EAC (East African Community), PTA (Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States), COMESA (Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa) and other organizations. Assistance is also required in training the Commission's officers on the premises of contemporary competition authorities, in making the Commission autonomous from direct governmental control, in mounting a course on competition policy at the Institute of Administration, and in facilitating access to materials on international trade and competition issues.

64. Lithuania: Technical assistance is needed in particular to train staff in the field of investigation and application of procedures in the case of horizontal and vertical agreements, merger control and abuse of dominant positions. Such assistance could be provided through long-term training programmes in countries having experience in competition law and policy, as well as through participation in courses, seminars and international conferences.

65. Malta: Assistance is required in the following areas: (a) organizing seminars in Malta aimed at sensitizing business and consumer-oriented circles to the importance of competition policy; (b) holding training workshops for the staff of the Office for Fair Competition of Malta; (c) the possible funding of an expert to be attached to the Office for Fair Competition in Malta.

66. Nicaragua: Assistance is requested in the form of: (a) training in the areas of law application procedures used by other competent authorities and analysis of specific cases; (b) seminars to disseminate information on the concept of competition; (c) establishment of a competition authority and preparation of studies on competition and related policies.

67. Panama: Special interest was indicated in obtaining assistance in the areas of institutional modernization and human resources development.

68. Peru: Assistance is required in the form of training of personnel of INDECOPI in competition authorities abroad (the trained personnel will, in turn, train other officials and postgraduate students and will provide information at the national, regional and international levels); visits of experts from other competition authorities to provide assistance in specific areas; methodological support in the following areas: definition of relevant markets, dominant position, parallel practices, indices, etc.; elaboration of methodology for market investigation, for assessment of the impact of competition legislation on the economy and for definition of standards of evidence that can be used in courts; training of officials with a view to obtaining and canalizing international financial support to requested areas; review of specific problems of competition legislation and competition authorities of developing countries; comparative analysis of application of competition legislation in developed and developing countries in order to understand better problems of applying legislative norms of the former in the latter.

69. Philippines: Assistance is required in drafting comprehensive legislation on consumer protection and competition.

70. Togo: There is a need to formulate competition law which would be based on existing legislation and adapted to the Togolese situation. There is also need to train adequate personnel to supervise competition practices, and financial and technical assistance is necessary in this area.

71. Zimbabwe: Assistance is requested in the areas enumerated in paragraph 39 above.

## Notes

1/ General Assembly resolution 35/63 of 5 December 1980 (TD/RBP/CONF.10/Rev.1).

2/ Annex I to the report of the Third United Nations Conference to Review All Aspects of the Set of Multilaterally Agreed Equitable Principles and Rules for the Control of Restrictive Business Practices (TD/RBP/CONF.4/15).

3/ Annex I to the report of the Expert Meeting on Competition Law and Policy on its first session (TD/B/COM.2/3; TD/B/COM.2/EM/5).

## Annex

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROVIDED BY UNCTAD SINCE 1994

| Year | Type of activity | Country(ies) of participants | Foreign experts from: | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1994<br>January | National seminar | Malaysia | Australia<br>Norway<br>Pakistan | Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) |
| February | Regional seminar for FORUM countries | Cook Islands<br>Fiji<br>Kiribati<br>Papua New Guinea<br>Solomon Islands<br>Tonga<br>Samoa | Australia<br>Norway<br>New Zealand | Suva (Fiji) |
| March | National seminar | China | Germany<br>United Kingdom | Shanghai<br>Shenzhen<br>(China) |
| June | World Bank/UNCTAD Conference on Competition Policy and International Trade | Chile<br>Colombia<br>Peru<br>Venezuela<br>Mexico | United States of America<br>EU | Bogotá (Colombia) |
| | Subregional seminar | Bahamas<br>Belize<br>Jamaica | Norway | Kingston (Jamaica) |
| | National seminar | Trinidad and Tobago | Jamaica<br>Norway | Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago) |
| August | National seminar | Philippines | Germany | Manila (Philippines) |
| December | National seminar | Dominican Republic | Norway<br>Venezuela | Santo Domingo (Dominican Republic) |
| | National seminar | Costa Rica | Norway<br>Venezuela | San José (Costa Rica) |
| | National seminar | Nicaragua | Norway | Managua (Nicaragua) |
| | National seminar | El Salvador | Norway | San Salvador (El Salvador) |
| | National seminar | Peru | Germany | Lima (Peru) |

| Year | Type of activity | Country(ies) of participants | Foreign experts from: | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1995<br>January | International/<br>CUTS a/ Conference | India | Germany<br>Pakistan<br>Philippines<br>Republic of Korea | New Delhi<br>(India) |
| February | National seminar | Guatemala | | Guatemala City<br>(Guatemala) |
| | Advisory mission | El Salvador | | San Salvador<br>(El Salvador) |
| October | Regional African seminar | Tunisia<br>Morocco<br>Egypt<br>South Africa<br>Gabon<br>Mauritania<br>Kenya<br>Zambia<br>Zimbabwe | France<br>World Bank | Tunis<br>(Tunisia) |
| | Regional seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean | Argentina<br>Bolivia<br>Brazil<br>Chile<br>Peru<br>Colombia<br>Venezuela<br>Jamaica<br>Dominican Republic<br>Trinidad and Tobago<br>Mexico<br>Guatemala<br>El Salvador<br>Panama<br>Costa Rica<br>Nicaragua | World Bank | Caracas<br>(Venezuela) |
| | National seminar | Bolivia | Germany | La Paz<br>(Bolivia) |
| December | National seminar | Zambia | Kenya<br>Norway<br>Pakistan<br>South Africa<br>United Kingdom | Lusaka<br>(Zambia) |
| | Advisory mission | South Africa | Norway<br>United Kingdom | Pretoria<br>(South Africa) |
| | National seminar | Pakistan | Germany | Islamabad<br>(Pakistan) |

| Year | Type of activity | Country(ies) of participants | Foreign experts from: | Location |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1996<br>January | Advisory services | Bolivia | | La Paz<br>(Bolivia) |
| March/April | Advisory services | Guatemala | | Guatemala City<br>(Guatemala) |
| May | Advisory services | Colombia | | Bogota<br>(Colombia) |
| June | First national symposium | Malawi | South Africa | Lilongwe<br>(Malawi) |
| | National seminar | Honduras | | Tegucigalpa<br>(Honduras) |
| | National seminar | Costa Rica | Germany | San José<br>(Costa Rica) |
| | National seminar | Cuba | Venezuela<br>Chile | Havana (Cuba) |
| August | Advisory services | Paraguay | | Asunción<br>(Paraguay) |
| September | Regional seminar | Rep. of Korea<br>Malaysia<br>Russian Fed.<br>Thailand | World Bank<br>OECD | Seoul<br>(Republic of Korea) |
| December | Second national symposium | Malawi | United Kingdom | Lilongwe<br>(Malawi) |
| | Advisory services | Zambia | | Lusaka<br>(Zambia) |
| 1997<br>February | Advisory services | Mauritius | | Port Louis<br>(Mauritius) |
| | National seminar | Mauritius | United Kingdom | |
| March | Advisory services | Dominican Rep. | | Santo Domingo<br>(Dominican Rep.) |
| April | National seminar | Sri Lanka | Germany | Colombo<br>(Sri Lanka) |

a/ Consumer Unity and Trust Society.

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